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determined to recast the work and to supply certain deficiencies, especially in dates of publication and in Scandinavian literature, bringing the work down to the beginning of the twentieth century as a point of departure for future investigations.

The original was unfortunate in usually omitting the dates of publication of species; the prospectus announces that in the second edition this lack will be supplied. Yet the second fascicle (which alone has just reached us) shows many failures to carry out this laudable intention. *Nomina nuda* (admitted in the first edition in hope of proper publication!) will be rigorously excluded, it is said, but the *Index* will include besides described species and those issued in numbered exsiccata, species "existant dans les grands herbiers publiques (Kew, British Museum, Paris, etc.) où on peut les consulter." The latter have no place in such a work and should be as rigorously excluded as other *nomina nuda*.

The author of so important a bibliographical work should have adopted a consistent system of citation and adhered to it rigidly. Much space might have been saved and greater clearness attained by attention to such details. References "*loc. et op. cit.*" are maddening because they compel the users to hunt back for the last citation often some lines back and not prominent enough to catch the eye readily. Even with its faults the revision of this indispensable *Index* will be greatly appreciated. We trust the publisher will take due pains to make its dress accurate and worthy of this valuable work. It is to be issued in monthly fascicles of which about 25 will be needed.—C. R. B.

Wiesner and his school.

THE PERSONALITY of a great investigator is very properly recognized upon festal days by his associates and pupils. Hofrat Professor Dr. WIESNER founded in 1873 the institute for plant physiology in University of Vienna, and upon the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of his professorship his many pupils have united in congratulations, and a *Festschrift*⁹ has been prepared by three of them, which takes the form of a contribution to the history of botany. After a congratulatory introduction by Dr. HANS MOLISCH it consists of two parts. In the first is a bibliography of WIESNER'S writings, which number 213 titles extending over fifty years (1854-1903), and a running summary of his contributions to various subjects, classified so as to facilitate ready reference. As a second part there is a bibliography of 157 titles and a similar résumé of the work by his pupils which has issued from this institute. The first part was prepared by Dr. LUDWIG LINSBAUER of the Imperial Gymnasium and Dr. KARL LINSBAUER of the Institute (Professor Wiesner's assistant), and the second by Count LEOPOLD VON PORTHEIM, of the Biologische Versuchsanstalt recently established in the Prater.

⁹ LINSBAUER, K., LINSBAUER, L., and PORTHEIM, LEOPOLD R. VON, Wiesner und seine Schule; ein Beitrag zur Geschichte der Botanik. *Festschrift* anlässlich des dreissigjährigen Bestandes des pflanzenphysiologischen Institutes der Wiener Universität. Mit einem Vorwort von Prof. Dr. HANS MOLISCH. 8vo. pp. xviii + 260. Wien: Alfred Hölder. 1903.

Among the names in the second bibliography one finds those of BURGERSTEIN, CZAPEK, FRITSCH, HABERLANDT, KRASSER, LINSBAUER, MIKOSCH, MOLISCH, WETTSTEIN, ZAHLBRUCKNER, and others—certainly a notable list. It has been a pleasure to many American botanists to meet Professor WIESNER this summer and to join in the congratulations upon his past labors and extend to him our best wishes for the future.—C. R. B.

MINOR NOTICES.

FRITSCH has published an interesting contribution to the comparative morphology of the seedling of Gesneriaceae.¹⁰ The account is so largely a description of many forms that a satisfactory summary is difficult to give. The book is divided into two parts. In the first part twenty-six species, comprising fourteen genera, are treated, and the gross form, particularly in several species of the *Streptocarpus*, is described in considerable detail. In the second part the structure of the grown plants is considered, and the behavior of the cotyledons, leaf arrangement, anisophyly, and kindred topics presented by this group are discussed. A chapter is devoted to a short account of the anatomy of Gesneriaceae and one also to the structure of *Steptocarpus* as compared with other Cyrtandroideae.—W. B. MACCALLUM.

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY of New York has published¹¹ the proceedings of the International Conference on plant-breeding and hybridization held in New York city, September 30 and October 1 and 2, 1902. The conference was such a notable one in the quality of the papers presented that it is a valuable service to biology in general to have them accessible. Not only are the presented papers published, but also the discussions and the papers read by title. Forty-two papers are thus brought together, most of them dealing with the fundamental principles of plant-breeding and hybridization, and they represent investigations and conclusions that botanists should become more familiar with.—J. M. C.

LINDAU¹² has published a pocket handbook for the collection and preparation of the lower cryptogams with special reference to conditions in the tropics. In this work of some 75 pages the characteristic habitats of mosses, liverworts, algae, and fungi are described; directions are given for the preparation of material in herbarium form and for the simpler methods of preserving in spirits or in formalin. It is a book which the traveler and collector with botanical interests will find very useful.—B. M. DAVIS.

¹⁰ FRITSCH, K., *Die Keimplanzen des Gesneriaceen, mit besonderer Berücksichtigung von Streptocarpus, nebst vergleichenden Studien über die Morphologie dieser Familie.* 8vo. pp. iv + 188. figs. 38. Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1904. M4.50.

¹¹ Proceedings International Conference on plant breeding and hybridization. 1902. Hort. Soc. N. Y. Memoirs, Vol. I. New York: Horticultural Society. 1904.

¹² LINDAU, G., *Hilfsbuch für das Sammeln und Präparieren der niederen Kryptogamen mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Verhältnisse in den Tropen.* 12mo. pp. 78. Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger. 1904. M1.50.